

State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer Governor Office of the Governor 1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

CONTACT: Matthew Benson

(602) 542-1342

mbenson@az.gov

Main Phone: 602-542-4331

Facsimile: 602-542-7601

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Statement by Governor Jan Brewer

Federal Court Upholds State Action to Protect Life

"I'm grateful today that a federal court has upheld the constitutionality of the Mother's Health and Safety Act. Simply put, this measure is about protecting Arizona women and children. With today's ruling, this important legislation can now take effect this week.

"My pro-life record is lengthy and consistent, but my heart goes out to any woman who finds herself in circumstances so dark that she considers an abortion. The Mother's Health and Safety Act imposes common sense restrictions to prohibit most abortions after 20 weeks of gestation, knowing that health risks to the mother increase with time, and the unborn child will feel pain at this age. Additionally, this law will bolster existing parental-consent and informed-consent regulations so that women receive the information they need before undergoing an abortion, and ensures they have quick access to a hospital, in the event of abortion-related complications.

"I recognize that the issue of abortion remains a controversial one. With the Mother's Health and Safety Act, I'm hopeful most Arizonans can find common ground."

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